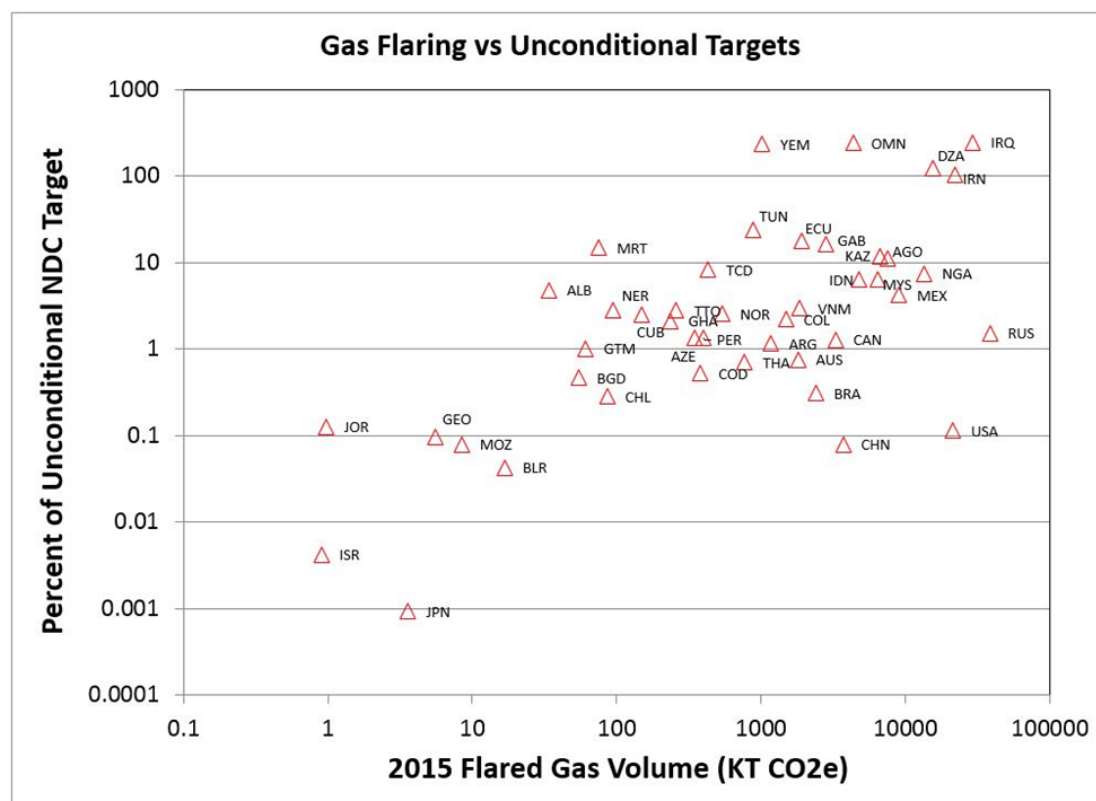


IN REVIEW

# Potential Role of Gas Flaring Reductions in Meeting Paris Climate Agreement Targets

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In this paper, we compare 2015 satellite-derived natural gas flaring estimates with the submitted national greenhouse gas reduction targets under the UNFCCC Paris Agreement. The analysis indicates the potential role of reduction of gas flaring at oil production sites (upstream flaring) in meeting country-specific targets (Nationally Determined Contributions – NDC). In 2015, upstream gas flaring was detected in 75 countries and the total flared gas volume was estimated at 143 BCM. The vast majority of gas flaring is concentrated in a limited set of countries. States that could meet their unconditional NDC targets by gas flaring reductions alone include Iraq (243%), Oman (239%), Yemen (232%), Algeria (124%), and Iran (102%). Several countries with large flared gas volumes could only meet a small portion of their NDC targets from gas flaring reductions, including the Russian Federation (1.5%) and the USA (0.1%).